



May 21, 2003

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Dear Chairman Burgett:

On behalf of the Peninsula Friends of Rail and Virginians for High Speed Rail (VHSR), we are asking the York County Board of Supervisors to consider adopting a resolution. That resolution would express support for the "American Passenger Rail Agreement," relating to the future of intercity passenger rail service, as well as the VHSR effort to obtain federal funding to complete the upgrade of rail infrastructure, service, and equipment for rail service between Washington D.C. and Newport News, Virginia by 2007.

As you are aware, Congress is currently debating the reauthorization of both Amtrak and TEA-21. This provides an excellent opportunity to make policy changes leading to a healthy and growing intercity passenger rail system.

Starting with a strategy summit in mid-November 2002, representatives from over 30 organizations, representing a wide range of national and regional interests, developed a common set of principles designed to influence the current debate. The principles are contained within the American Passenger Rail Agreement, which is enclosed. The Peninsula Friends of Rail and VHSR support adoption of these principles.

In order to begin implementation of these principles, VHSR has recently adopted a plan to seek \$175 million in federal funds to ensure completion of necessary work on rail lines between Washington, D.C. and Newport News, Virginia. (See attached brochure.)

We are hereby requesting that the York County Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution in support of the American Passenger Rail Agreement and the VHSR project. This Resolution will be used, along with resolutions from other Virginia municipalities and organizations, to obtain the support of the Virginia Congressional Delegation for these proposals.

Sincerely,



Al Louer

Sean Driscoll

Tom Tingle



John Raup

The Honorable James S. Burgett
Chairman, York County Board of Supervisors
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Yorktown, Virginia 23690

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Peninsula Friends of Rail is affiliated with the Virginia High Speed Rail Development Committee
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